State	1993	1994	1995
Meghalaya	8	6	2
Orissa	3,528	3,612	3,685
Punjab	14,212	12,445	11,852
Rajasthan	25,243	27,418	28,374
Tamil Nadu	70,313	70,525	65,737
Tripura	2	2	-
Uttar Pradesh	25,115	22,815	18,932
West Bengal	2,821	2,020	2,278
Delhi	4,342	3,816	3,281
Pondicherry	115	87	52
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	2	-	-
TOTAL	4,38,338	4,25,385	4,15,334

Sale of rice by US company under the brand names of "Texmati" and "Tex Basmati"

1023. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that some American companies are selling rice under the brand names of "Texmati" and "Tex Basmati" which may confuse customers of Indian Basmati rice; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) and (b) Ricetec., Inc., USA has been selling American grown aromatic rice under the brand name "Texmati" in USA. The issue of mislabelling of rice in the USA has been taken up with Govt. of Unites States.

Ricetec. Inc., USA has filed an application for registration of trade mark "Texmati" with the Patents Office, Trade Marks Registry, U.K. Agricultural Processed Foods Export Development Authority (APEDA) has been directed to legally contest this issue and they have filed an opposition against the registration of "Texmati" with the competent authority in U.K.

Coffee under Open General Licence

1024. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to bring Coffee under OGL (Open General Licence);

(b) if so, the details of the decision taken;

(c) whether Government have taken into consideration the impact such a move will have on prices of coffee in the country;

(d) if so, the likely impact of such a move on coffee prices;

(e) whether coffee growers were consulted before taking this decision; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (f) Do not arise.

Appointment of Director (Technical) on the Board of NMDC Ltd.

1025. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that dearth of mining engineers in NMDC Limited has led the management to recommend the appointment of Director (Technical) of other discipline;

(b) whether number of representations have been made to the Government for cancelling such proposed appointment of Director (Technical) on the Board of NMDC Limited;

(c) whether Government are yet to investigate into the matter; and

(d) if so, the facts thereof and if not, the reasons for appointing engineers of other discipline instead of mining discipline?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) to (d) Appointments to the post of functional Director in Public Sector Enterprises under the administrative control of various Ministries/Departments are made with the approval of the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) in accordance with the provisions contained in Government of India (Transaction of Business) Rules, 1961 as amended from time to time. Public